

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

In response to the Examiner's comments about the IDS filed July 7, 2005, an additional copy of cited GB Search Report is attached. Also attached is a copy of the USPTO postcard receipt acknowledging receipt of the documents earlier submitted.

Accordingly, no additional fee is believed required. However, if such is deemed necessary, then authority is hereby given to charge such additional IDS fee to our Account No. 14-1140. With respect to the foreign language patent document earlier submitted, the applicant does not currently have ready access to any English language version of that document.

In response to the Examiner's formalities – based claim objections, and in response to the rejection of certain claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101, the original claims have been canceled in favor of new claims 25-34 which are believed to avoid and obviate such grounds of objection/rejection.

The rejection of claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly anticipated by Sakaguchi '627 is respectfully traversed.

Applicant's new claims 25-34 are patentably distinguished from Sakaguchi for essentially the same reasons as were original claims 1-24.

Based on the Examiner's comments, it appears that there maybe some misunderstanding about Sakaguchi and/or applicant's claimed invention.

For example, the Examiner alleges that the first step of original claims 1 and 14 is disclosed at column 9, lines 9-55 of Sakaguchi. However, this passage of Sakaguchi involves the discussion of two quite different systems. First there is a description of one aspect of Sakaguchi's own invention (lines 9-24) and then there is a discussion of "conventional virtual try-on systems" at lines 33-55. Clearly the Examiner's treatment of this passage as describing a single unified system is erroneous. Similar, non-sequiters are present throughout the Examiner's discussion.

Sakaguchi does disclose a system that provides a similar end result to that of the applicant, but it is achieved by different means. Sakaguchi discloses a system in which an image of a garment is projected onto the image of a user (see column 11, lines 1-26 and the description of Figure 6 that bridges column 11 & 12). The nature of the human image is important to the operation of the Sakaguchi system as it preferred that there is a connection between the human image and the type of clothing that is to be tried on using the system of Sakaguchi (see column 12, lines 58-64). More detail is given regarding the transformation of the garment image into the try-on image at column 14 line 3 to column 15 line 9. The stereoscopic projection of the garment image onto the human image is described in

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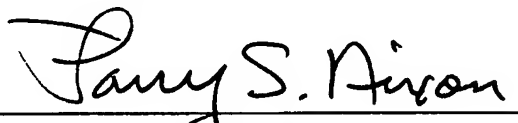
more detail at column 21 line 56 to column 23 to line 8. Clearly Sakaguchi does not disclose the applicant's claimed invention features, e.g., such as an avatar defined using a set of weight values and a garment fitted virtually to that avatar by combining the weight values with a model representing the garment. The first two pages of the present application reference a number of computationally intensive methods of fitting a garment to a figure and it appears more than reasonable to assume that Sakaguchi is one such computationally intensive method.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons applicant's independent claims 25 and 31 are patentably distinguished from Sakaguchi. Dependent claims presented above add yet further patentable distinction to the claimed invention.

Accordingly, this entire application is now believed to be in condition for allowance and a formal Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
Larry S. Nixon
Reg. No. 25,640

LSN:ldw
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100